

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2008***

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Selectmen present were: Rosanne Gilbert, Michael Woodworth, and Wes Moore. Others present included: Police Chief Reed, Kelley Corson, Margo Purrington, Win Fream, Natalie Fream, Amy Sununu, Fire Chief Buxton, Health Officer Gene Perreault, and Town Clerk Sue McKinnon.

Chief Reed informed the Selectmen that Officer Stephen McAulay is being honored for services performed last year and asked if a member of the Board of Selectmen would attend the ceremony. Rosanne volunteered to attend.

The Chief and Selectmen discussed criminal background checks which are required by law effective September 1, 2008.

Kelley, Margo, Win, Natalie, and Amy brought forth an idea to lease the old Post Office building to create a community art center. They are hoping to have the following programs: toddler/parent, lessons for the general public, an after school art program, teen programs, adult classes, and senior programs. They are looking into becoming a non-profit organization. Applying for grants has been discussed with the Town Planner, Clay Mitchell. They also want to coordinate programs with the library and elementary school.

The fact that the building needs to be brought up to code was discussed. The group would need to pay for the updates up front in lieu of rent. Kelley has toured the building along with the Building Inspector and has an understanding of what needs to be done.

Michael agreed to work with the group. He advised them to aim high when applying for grants. The Selectmen asked the group to meet again with an offer including a dollar amount of monthly rent and a proposed lease agreement.

The Board of Selectmen adopted the new New Hampshire RSA where any new people employed by or volunteering in Newfields who are involved with children, the elderly, money, or go into private homes must submit to a criminal background check. This includes a signed form to obtain their criminal history, fingerprints, and a photograph to be taken by the police department. These items will be kept in a secure personnel file. The new employee handbook describes the procedure.

Jeff Buxton agrees with the criminal background check. He asked that the town require this on new employees or volunteers only. The Selectmen agreed to make this a requirement on any new hires or volunteers effective September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Gene Perreault expressed his pleasure with the work the Board of Selectmen has done on mosquito control. He is also in agreement with the policy on criminal background checks.

Payroll checks were signed.

The new Personnel Policy was signed

The Criminal Background Check letter was revised and will be ready for signatures at next week's meeting.

The discussion on swales was tabled until next week.

Correspondence from the Lane Law Offices was reviewed.

The IRS will issue a check to the Town for \$1,030.07 for an overpayment and interest on the 2006 tax year. The Selectmen thank Maureen Smith for her work on the audit.

The notice of the Watershed Conference was reviewed and will be passed on to the Water and Sewer Department.

Correspondence from the NH DES will be passed on to the Water and Sewer Department.

It was confirmed that roadside spraying for mosquitoes was completed last night.

Correspondence from the Rockingham Planning Commission was reviewed and Michael will take it to the next Planning Board Meeting.

Correspondence from the Local Government Center was reviewed.

The proposed Annual Budget Review Letter was reviewed and tabled until next week.

The Selectmen asked that the proposed 2009 budget for 2009 mosquito control be obtained and that Sara McGregor and Robin Conner be asked to attend an upcoming Selectmen's meeting.

Michael made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 23, 2008 Selectmen's meeting. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Rosanne made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer  
Administrative Assistant